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REPORT
OF THE
SELECTMEN AND TREASURER
OF THE
TOWN OF KINGSTON, N. H.
AND THE
Report of the Superintending School Committee,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1,
1878.

EXETER :
NEWS-LETTER STEAM PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.
1878.

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REPORT

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NEWS-LETTER STEAM PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.
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John P. Stickney, school house tax due school District No. 5, for 1877,	65 00
S. S. Peaslee, for damage to plough,	5 00
John W. Prescott, for taking tramps to County House, Dec., 1876,	2 00
A. J. Cilley, for repairs on hearse,	10 00
John W. Prescott, cleaning town hall three times,	5 75
“ “ for brackets, lamps, chimneys, &c.,	7 25
“ “ opening hall for Farmers' meeting,	1 50
Bounty on 4 foxes,	2 00
“ “ 4 hawks,	80
Dr. T. O. Reynolds, for return of births and deaths,	5 00
Dr. G. W. Sanborn, “ “ “	3 50
Expenses building lockup,	115 51
For stove and funnel for lockup,	3 75
Pail, washdish, bucket, &c.,	2 55
Samuel E. Woodman, for making and recording taxes,	15 00
“ “ for making one school house tax and enrolling military.	2 00
Harriet B. Page, for one sheep killed by dogs,	4 00
Alfred Davis, “ “ “ “	5 00
Nathan Nason, “ “ “ “	5 00
Eben Eastman, damage on sheep by dogs,	3 00
John Jones, one sheep killed and lamb damaged by dogs,	6 00
Samuel E. Woodman, for services as Selectman,	30 00
“ “ “ “ Treasurer,	25 00
“ “ “ “ 13 trips with hearse,	26 00
Moses, J. French, for services as selectman,	25 00
A. J. Davis, “ “	23 00
Walter S. Clark, for services as Town Clerk,	35 00
John P. Sanborn, for services as Superintending School Committee,	25 00
B. F. Cram, for collecting \$5094.32, at 2 per cent.,	101 88
For horse and wagon to Exeter twice,	1 50
	<hr/> \$2941 48

SCHOOL MONEY.

Paid Prudential School Committee of District No. 1,	\$160 33
“ “ “ “ No. 2,	268 94
“ “ “ “ No. 3,	225 13
“ “ “ “ No. 4,	47 07
“ “ “ “ No. 5,	146 47
“ “ “ “ No. 6,	213 16
	<hr/> \$1061 10

PARSONAGE MONEY FOR 1876.

Paid Congregational Society,	\$103 70
Methodist Society,	82 96
Universalist Society,	69 44
Christian Advent Society,	17 14
First Freewill Baptist Society,	11 72
Second “ “	16 23
Advent Millennial,	3 60
	<hr/> \$304 79

SUPPORT OF POOR.

Received from the County for assistance rendered		\$100 00
Stephen S. Webster,	\$52 00	
From Thomas W. Davis, rent for the Gale		
house,	11 00	
Due from Thomas W. Davis, house rent to March 1st,	5 50	
	<hr/>	\$68 50
Expenses for the year,		<hr/> \$385 43

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

DISTRICT No. 1.

Paid Orren Smith, Highway Surveyor, non-resident highway money worked,	\$11 74
Orren Smith, for breaking roads winter 1877-78,	10 17
Joseph Judkins, for repairs on bridge, and lumber,	2 38
	<hr/>
	\$24 29

DISTRICT No. 2.

Paid Alvin F. Davis, Highway Surveyor, non-resident highway money worked,	\$5 65
Alvin F. Davis, for breaking roads winter 1877-78,	6 65
Alvin F. Davis, for post rails and use of scraper,	2 25
M. J. French, for 556 feet of bridge timber,	8 06
	<hr/>
	\$22 61

DISTRICT No. 3.

Paid John H. Furber, Highway Surveyor, non-resident highway money worked,	\$6 00
John H. Furber, for breaking roads winter 1877-78,	9 55
	<hr/>
	\$15 55

DISTRICT No. 3½.

Paid Obediah Bean, Highway Surveyor, non-resident highway money worked,	\$24 23
Obediah Bean, for breaking roads winter 1877-78,	2 55
“ “ for post and rails,	1 00
“ “ repairs on bridge.	1 50
Jonathan French, for 754 feet of bridge timber,	9 80
R. B. Bartlett, for breaking roads March, 1877,	3 30
	<hr/>
	\$42 38

DISTRICT No. 4.

Paid George W. Wright, Highway Surveyor, non-resident highway money worked,	\$9 82
George W. Wright, for breaking roads winter 1877-78,	4 35
John B. French, for “ “ “ “ “	1 50
	<hr/>
	\$15 67

DISTRICT No. 5.

Paid Ezra Page, Highway Surveyor, non-resident highway money worked,	\$13 19
Ezra Page, for breaking roads winter 1877-78,	11 02
E. L. Chenev, repairs on bridge.	50
H. D. Webster, repairs on bridge,	3 47
	<hr/>
	\$28 18

DISTRICT No. 6.

Paid John W. Collins, Highway Surveyor, non-resident highway money worked,	\$77 30
John W. Collins, for breaking roads winter 1877-78,	16 79
“ “ for bridge timber, post, rails, &c.,	3 70
Robert W. Varrill, for repairs on bridge, March, '76,	1 20
	<hr/>
	\$98 99

DISTRICT No. 7.

Paid John F. Tucker, Highway Surveyor, non-resident highway money worked,	\$31 67
John F. Tucker, for breaking roads winter 1877-78	18 00
" " for bridge timber,	50
	<hr/>
	\$50 17
Total for highways and bridges,	\$297 84

ABATEMENTS FOR 1875.

William F. Sanborn, over-taxed,	\$6 25
A. C. Clemant, tax in full,	5 53
Charles L. Fifield, poll tax,	1 25
	<hr/>
	\$12 98

ABATEMENTS FOR 1876.

William F. Sanborn, over-taxed,	\$5 21
Jonathan Webster, tax in full,	1 63
James M. Judkins, poll tax,	1 09
On one dog,	1 00
	<hr/>
	\$8 93

ABATEMENTS FOR 1877.

Calvin Smith,	Poll tax,	\$1 25
James H. Beals,	"	1 25
Charles H. Mitchell,	"	1 25
Ormand S. Davis,	"	1 25
Samuel Canutson,	"	1 25
George C. Eastman,	"	1 25
Stephen S. Judkins,	"	1 25
George W. Prescott, Jr.,	"	1 25
Benjamin N. French,	"	1 25
William O. Morrill,	"	1 25
John M. Jaquis,	"	1 25
Thomas W. Bagley,	"	1 25
Charles R. Schelling,	"	1 25
Henry Spicer,	"	1 25
John Downing,	"	1 25
Jackson D. Currier,	"	1 25
Edward S. Bisbee,	"	1 25
Chark B. Chellis,	"	1 25
Simon B. Judkins,	"	1 25
Lewis F. Prescott,	"	1 25
George E. Stewart, tax in full,		1 55
Mary A. Marsh, tax on cow,		20
Jacob Chapman, over-taxed,		1 25
Joseph Judkins, tax on horse,		38
Simon B. Judkins, " "		62
Edward Norfolk, " "		75
On 16 dogs,		16 00
Isaac T. Hoyt, non-resident over-taxed,		93
Henry H. Nichols, " "		1 45
John Currier, tax and cost,		1 35
Ezra Page, tax on horse,		62
		<hr/>
		\$50 10

MONEY DERIVED FROM DOG TAX,

In 1877, taxes on 86 dogs,		\$86 00
Paid abatements on 16 dogs,	\$16 00	
for five sheep killed by dogs,	23 00	39 00
		<hr/>
		\$47 00
Dog tax remaining in town treasury for 1876,		45 00
		<hr/>
" " " " for 1877,		\$92 00
The whole expenses of the town for the year as approved by us,		
the Selectmen, amounts to		\$5434 66

SAM'L E. WOODMAN, } Selectmen
 MOSES J. FRENCH, } of
 ANDREW J. DAVIS, } Kingston.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH FIRST, 1878.

The Treasurer charges himself by receiving from all sources the sum of	\$6158 25
Paid out by order of the Selectmen,	5434 66
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Amount of money remaining in the treasury,	\$723 59
LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN MARCH, FIRST, 1878.	
Due on town parsonage fund,	\$5200 00
school fund,	1260 00
Due the Baptist society, interest on parsonage fund for 1876,	7 21
the 1st Freewill Baptist society, interest on parsonage fund, for 1877,	8 44
	<hr/>
	\$6475 65

RESOURCES OF THE TOWN, MARCH FIRST, 1878.

Due on Amos Kimball, Collector, bond for 1871,	\$21 78
John T. Clark, " 1873,	30 00
B. F. Cram, " 1877,	95 00
Due from John W. Prescott, for grass,	13 25
Government bounties,	800 00
Elmer C. Carter, by order of court,	200 00
" " cost of prosecution per order of the court,	61 95
money remaining in the hands of the Treasurer,	723 59
	<hr/>
	\$1945 57
Amount of town debt, March 1, 1878,	\$4530 08
March 1, 1877,	4934 37
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Decrease of town debt,	\$404 29

SAM'L E. WOODMAN, Treasurer.

MARCH 5, 1878.

The undersigned, have examined the account of the Selectmen and Treasurer for the previous year, and find them correctly cast and proper vouchers for the same.

CHAS. B. CLARK, Auditor.

REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

JOSEPH S. JUDKINS, Prudential Committee.

Miss Emma S. Eastman, teacher. Wages per month, \$25. Whole number of scholars, 30. Average attendance, 26. Weeks of school, 24. Number of visitors, 50. Number of months teacher has taught, 17.

Miss Eastman is a successful teacher, skilful and accomplished; she uniformly did well, secured and enjoyed the confidence of committee and parents, and the respect and affection of her pupils. The school always appeared first-rate. We bespeak for this teacher a bright future in her rightly chosen profession.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

CLARON THYNG, Prudential Committee.

Miss Laura J. Smith, teacher first term; Mrs. Laura J. Hilliard, second; Mr. Frank B. Swain, third. Wages of first and second terms per month, \$34; third term, \$36. Whole number of scholars first and second terms, 41. Average attendance, 37. Whole number of scholars third term, 30. Average attendance, 17. First teacher's experience, 14 years; second, none. Number of visitors first and second terms, 50; third, (8 weeks of school) 30.

The teacher of the first and second terms was a veteran in the business, calm and self-possessed, perfectly at home in the school-room, being able to guide her pupils with perfect ease in regard to order. She had her whole time to impart instruction, which she most skilfully did. The kindest of feelings seemed to exist between teacher and pupils. The school was a success.

The literary attainments of the teacher of the third term were far beyond what was required by law to teach in our common schools, yet he labored under many disadvantages: first, he had no experience in teaching; second, he had not received any special training for the business; third, he took the place of a first-class teacher of 14 years experience; fourth, he seemed to show want of tact and energy; fifth, flying reports derogatory to the school soon began to be circulated, the parents took away many of the pupils, and although the few who remained made good progress, yet as a whole it was nearly a failure, and a larger part of the money was thrown away. This school has more material in it than any other school in town, and is the hardest to govern and teach successfully,

and should never be trusted again in the hands of a person of no experience ; in fact, no one except a first-class teacher of large experience should be hired here ; if they are, the school will be very likely to prove a failure.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

JOHN W. PKESCOTT, Prudential Committee.

Miss Elmira C. Gordon, teacher. Wages per month, \$30. Whole number of scholars, 36. Average attendance, 30. Teacher's experience, 36 months. Number of visitors 44. Weeks of school, 27.

Miss Gordon is a first-class teacher, a good disciplinarian, she discharged her duties faithfully, the pupils at the close of the year gave evidence of marked improvement, and their advancement was highly satisfactory. The parents of this district seem to take great interest in the school, and try to make every thing as agreeable as they can for the teacher.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

A present of the school money to Newton, N. H. !!

DISTRICT NO. 5.

JOHN P. STICKNEY, Prudential Committee.

Miss Ella E. Webster, teacher. Wages per month, \$30. Whole number of scholars, 36. Average attendance, 32. Teacher's experience 50 months. Number of visitors, 40. Weeks of school, 19. More school money needed here.

This district was very fortunate in securing the services of Miss Webster, a lady of rare ability as a teacher and disciplinarian. Promptness, thoroughness and dispatch characterized every movement. The mode of government was firm and decided, yet kind ; the best of feelings seemed to exist between teacher and pupils. Under her judicious and efficient management, the school made very gratifying progress. Taking everything into consideration, this must rank as the banner school for the year.

DISTRICT NO. 6.

JAMES M. QUIMBY, Prudential Committee.

Miss Helen M. Webster, teacher. Wages per month, \$28. Whole number of scholars 29. Average attendance, 24. Teacher's experience, 40 months. Number of visitors, 40. Weeks of school, 27.

Miss Webster is an honest, faithful, industrious and successful teacher. At the different visits of the committee the school always appeared well, the pupils seemed to be orderly in their deportment, studious in their habits of study and the improvement was satisfactory.

SCHOOLROOMS AND SCHOOLS.

I would say that I always found the schoolrooms of the female teachers, neat and orderly, and consider their schools a success.

Average length of schools 25 13-25 weeks.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Citizens : If you wish to have your children educated you must cultivate a liberal spirit, and cheerfully appropriate more money than the law requires.

SCHOOL HOUSES.

Parents : You strive to make your dwellings comfortable, and many of them have an air of elegance ; you labor diligently to amass wealth, that

you may provide for your children when they shall be deprived of your care; yet you suffer them to incur the risk of distorting limbs, of ruining health, by keeping them in ill-ventilated schoolrooms, confined upon hard benches with straight backs, and sitting over cold floors. It is said that there is more suffering from cold feet in the schoolrooms, than from any other cause. The feet should be kept warm, and head cool. You undoubtedly wish to stamp good impressions upon the minds of your children,—then beautify and adorn the schoolrooms with instructive mottoes, appropriate paintings, &c. Impressions upon children go a great ways in forming their character in after life. A word to the wise, &c.

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEES.

The silly practice of conferring this office upon any one who may wish it, can not be too strongly reprobated. It is an office of great trust and responsibility, and belongs to none but the best of men and women; and then only during good behavior. They should be persons of intelligence, honest, moral, of keen discrimination and quick decision, be paid for their services, and made to do their duty or vacate their office. No new teacher should be encouraged to even hope for a school until a certificate of qualifications from under the hand of the properly appointed officer, is presented to the Prudential Committee. A strict observance of this rule would avoid all collision between school and Prudential Committees and prevent incompetent teachers from obtaining certificates, as it were, by extortion. This is a matter of such vital importance as to demand the earnest consideration of all Prudential Committees. One month of good schooling is worth more than an indefinite amount of an inferior quality, therefore the price paid a teacher is a matter hardly worthy of consideration, from the fact that the teacher is dealing with mind not matter.

GOOD TEACHERS

Are those who are adapted to teaching; who are patient and persevering; commanding, but gentle; firm, with warm sympathies; possessing a dignity which wins childhood's affections, and a devotion that knows no weariness. A good teacher should be employed and kept, if possible, as long as they are good,—for it is one of the greatest evils connected with our common schools that we change teachers so often.

SPEAKING AGAINST TEACHERS.

Parents do an incalculable injury to the school by speaking against the teacher in the presence of their children. If you have doubts of their ability and faithfulness, go in the spirit of kindness and confer with them and the Committees, but mean business, not cheap talk.

SHADE TREES.

A few shade trees planted around our schoolhouses would add greatly to their comfort and beauty.

VISIT YOUR SCHOOLS.

No one has any right to find fault with the schools who does not visit them. Parents, do not let the persons who are entrusted with the cultivation and growth of the immortal minds of your children, be allowed to do their work in their own way, unless you know, by frequent observation, that their way is the right one. Visit the schools more, and see if there is any profanity or obscenity manifested by the children. No parent would wish to send his children to school where they are in danger of imbibing bad habits. If you find these excrescences there, you know the remedy.

PARENTS.

We ask your earnest attention to your district schools, because not only the intellectual, but the moral character there receives lasting impressions. Not only there does the child show the kind of education he receives at home, but he there acquires habits, which will develop themselves at home, and perhaps for years in after life. The school should be a model of politeness and courtesy, and good manners should be constantly and carefully inculcated.

CITIZENS.

The Committee would urge upon you the necessity of elevating the standard and raising the character of our common schools. They must be our great safeguard in the future, and if we would have our schools keep pace with other towns and cities in the progress of improvement, we must provide them with all the means necessary for this purpose. Our schoolhouses must be attractive and convenient; the teachers capable, faithful and energetic, and everything else connected with the schools be in keeping with the spirit of enterprise and progress. Thanks for the courtesy shown by parents, district agents and teachers.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN P. SANBORN, School Committee.

Kingston, March 1, 1878.

